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Adam Fuss



Synopsis

Adam Fuss has emerged as one of the bold and truly creative artists utilizing photography today. Fuss's photograms clearly break from those of his predecessors Man Ray, Moholy-Nagy and Talbot, and while striking a chord of homage, the images redefine how and what we see in pictures, both viscerally and intellectually. Like an eighteenth-century experimenter, Fuss utilizes organic and raw materials in an unusual approach, revealing spiritual and emotional process. Laid atop the paper for hours, and even days, colorization is recorded with a stroboscopic flash. Live snakes, the entrails of rabbits, eggs, cow liver, sperm, flowers, and stained glass circumscribe the vital, often mysterious energies emitted from these pictures. This book, the first major monograph of the artist's work, makes an important contribution to current discussions of photography's past and the question of its future.

Book Information

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Arena Editions (February 2, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1891024914

ISBN-13: 978-1891024917

Product Dimensions: 12.5 x 9.6 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Adam Fuss's self-titled book is about life, death and various cultural and personal views of spirituality. Much like an autobiography in words and pictures, the book catalogs Fuss's progression as he explores the world around him while questioning what it means to "exist." The book starts out with a biography of Fuss's life, providing the viewer with an outline of his interests in the natural and spiritual worlds dating back to his childhood. As his ideas develop, he confronts photography's "problem" -inextricable attachment to realistic representation- by challenging it with his desire to "capture and keep an object's mysterious self-inscription." The results are the 57 plates located in

the last section of the book. Using organic and raw materials such as humans and animals, flowers and plants, water, stained glass from churches and light alone, Fuss inscribes their living energies onto the light sensitive paper by use of time and a stroboscopic flash. Labeled with numbers alone, the plates of multiple series of Fuss's experimental photograms refer to the text while inviting broader conversations because they are untitled. The universe, conscious versus the unconscious, chaos versus harmony, representations of the soul's journey, and the awareness of eternal return can all be seen throughout these photograms. From abstract expressionism and surrealism to pure documentation, Fuss's unique methodology refers to past masters while revealing his spiritual and emotional process as a journey to discover the essence of natural forms.

I own the First Edition of this book and it sits on my coffee table, constantly receiving "rave" reviews whenever I have guests over ---- the book is just stunning! A must have for any photography collector!

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